

## SOLONS BUSY WITH STATE BUDGET

### Re-Apportionment Not Probable During this Session

By W. E. Turner  
 Sacramento (Special)—One of the important questions of the legislative session may be considered as already settled, although no vote has been taken upon it, and it has never been formally discussed on the floor of either house, and that is there will be no reapportionment of the state this session.

Gathered in the lobby of the Sacramento Hotel the other evening was a group of Los Angeles Senators and Assemblymen. They were discussing that very topic when your correspondent approached them on the subject and they had no hesitation in expressing their views promptly and clearly on the subject.

"There is no chance," said Senator Harry Chamberlin of the southern city, "of any satisfactory reapportionment bill being passed this session. By 'satisfactory' I mean fair and just, in accordance with the constitution and giving Los Angeles the representation in the Senate and the Assembly to which she is constitutionally entitled." One of his colleagues added that a reapportionment bill might be secured but that it would not be the kind that Los Angeles wants and that rather than agree to a measure of that kind the delegation and the citizens of the southland would prefer to have no reapportionment bill passed at all. If they accepted half a loaf they feel that the question would be settled until after the next census in 1930, and that they do not want. I asked them if they proposed to ask the courts to act in the measure. No I was told. "It is doubtful," said a Senator who is one of the best lawyers of that body, "whether the courts would hold that they had any jurisdiction in the matter and arguments would take much time and the decision would be long delayed; no, we shall appeal to the people at the next general election through an initiative, to adopt the reapportionment as the constitution provides. I pointed out that even if the initiative carried it would be two years more before, under it, an election could be held, but the advocates of that plan propose to include in it a measure for a special election to carry out its provisions.

**Budget Still of Absorbing Interest.**  
 The budget, of course, continues to occupy the center of the stage. It was proposed by the Assembly committee on ways and means to hold separate sessions to consider the measure from those to be held by the Senate finance committee. The administration, however, very sensibly vetoed that project and urged joint sessions of the two financial committees, not only because such a course will save time, but because it will enable witnesses to appear once before both committees, instead of making several trips to Sacramento for that purpose, and also because it will enable all interested to hear the questioning and cross examining of the various persons who are to appear before the Legislature.

Unquestionably the attendance will not be limited to the committees, but will include practically every member of both houses and as there is no objection usually to a member, even though not belonging to a committee, asking a witness questions, it is certain that those who are called before the committee will have a severe grilling before they are bidden to go in peace.

The star witness is to be Mrs. Nellie B. Pierce, who is generally understood to be the authoress of the budget and its chief exponent. She has expressed her perfect willingness to appear and to explain all the details of the measure, and there is no question that she will have a very interesting time, as all the opposition has aimed its guns at her specifically. There is said to have been another budget which was framed by Gilbert B. Daniels, chairman of the Board of Control, but which was rejected by the administration for the Pierce budget. The opposition has secured a copy of the former and is making careful comparisons between the two measures and Chairman Daniels and Mrs. Pierce will be asked to explain the differences, which amount to some millions.

It is understood that the new and former officers of the various departments are to be summoned to Sacramento to discuss the various items connected with those branches of the government with which they are familiar. That means that we shall have former Governor Pardee, the members of the Highway Commission, the former State Mineralogist, etc., among the witnesses, so that the sessions of the joint committee are not likely to be at all dull.

Both friends and foes alike admit that the budget was, under the law, necessarily framed in a hurry, and that it needs corrections and revision. The Governor has shown no unwillingness to agree to any changes that may

seem necessary under the circumstances, but on the contrary he has been at all times willing to listen, and in several instances has expressed publicly his willingness to make changes. Until what those changes are is announced it would be obviously unfair to charge him with breaking down any necessary branch of the government. He has taken the position in short that he is from Missouri and must be shown. The fact that a man who is going to lose his job cries that the state government is collapsing, because he will no longer be required to help carry it on carries no weight with Richardson and he says so frankly, but conservative, well-founded criticism he welcomes and stands ready to listen to with a receptive ear. That, I believe, is the true situation as it exists here.

#### Bible in the Public Schools

A measure that will cause much bitter discussion if it should ever come before the Legislature is a constitutional amendment by Assemblyman David C. Williams of Le Grand to allow the reading of the Bible in the public schools. It provides for the use of either the King James or the Douay versions of the Bible simply to be read by the teacher, but not explained. When the measure came up before the constitutional amendment committee there were more objections to its adoption than to its passage. Assemblyman Dozier of Redding, who appeared at his own personal request before the committee, spoke strongly against the amendment. He declared that the measure is un-American and that it would result in endless bitterness and trouble in the schools. The fact that to the teacher must be left the selection of the version she uses and the texts she selects were arguments made against the proposal. Obviously not to offend the Jewish pupils she would have to confine her reading to the Old Testament and as she could not read both versions she would be very likely offending one side or the other. Dozier declared that the attempt to allow Bible reading in the schools was "an attempt to revert to the practices which drove people to this country in the first place from Europe, for the colonists came here to secure freedom from religious persecution. Religious strife is bound to follow any attempt to introduce Bible reading into the schools. Assemblyman Williams took the position that the Bible was a work of great literary value and as such should not be excluded from the schools. He did not think the reading of the Bible would in any way cause trouble in the schools. The committee, however, evidently took the ground that if the mere proposal caused such strong differences the whole subject had best be dropped and without refusing to report the bill back to the Assembly they laid it on the table "for future study," which, in the opinion of the majority of the committee privately expressed, will take the balance of the session.

#### State Institutions Have Been Inspected

Assemblyman Chester Kline of Riverside, chairman of the committee on ways and means in the lower house, during the recess visited the various state institutions: The insane asylums, reformatories, prisons, etc., and made an inspection of them. He declares that he found all in the very best of condition and feels that Californians should be proud of the charitable work that their state is accomplishing, work which, he says, is second to none in the country. In each institution he visited he went over the proposed reduction in appropriations with the management and in not one case was he told that the work that was being done would be seriously impaired if the reductions suggested by the Richardson budget were carried out. Of only one institution did he make an unfavorable report, the Polytechnic School in the south. He found the school had a very small attendance, only 198 students, and as a result the cost of conducting it is enormous, averaging \$680 per pupil. Notwithstanding that very heavy per capita cost the authorities asked for an additional appropriation over that suggested by the budget. Kline would favor discontinuing the school as it is and using the property for some other purpose.

#### Campaign Expenses Investigation

The various investigations of campaign expenses by organizations or individuals has unearthed so far little of importance except the very large sums spent by the organization representing the public utilities in their opposition to the water power act. Not only has that committee, by its hearings, directed attention to the large sums spent in fighting a measure, but it has resulted in the withdrawal of an important man from labor union circles and almost destroyed several civic clubs the officers of which accepted, it is alleged, a fee for using their influence in fighting the measure. It is safe to predict that the investigation of individual campaign expenses, however, will not amount to much. Every one knows that the amount allowed by law for a campaign will not go very far if there is a strong fight to be made. The trouble with the law as an assemblyman pointed out, who comes from one of the largest districts in the state, is that the territory to be covered is not considered in the law. Evidently candidates for the Legislature or Congress whose districts are all urban can make a campaign far cheaper than candidates who in some cases have hundreds of miles to travel, hotel bills to pay and many other expenses to meet.

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### Pay All Honors To Dominguez

The fatal number three. This mysterious and often ill-fated trilogy has again been borne out. The veteran employees in the Federal building can leave a sigh of relief through their tears of sorrow and regret. For with the death of Court Crier Ralph J. Dominguez, the trinity is completed. Ever since the death of George W. Hazen, for 35 years in the secret service of the United States treasury department, the whisper has pervaded the corridors of the big building: "Who will be the third?" Fate gave the answer. Friend can part from friend without the fear that he will be gone forever.

Alfred Moore, crier in the court of Judge Bledsoe, was the first to go. Then Hazen, and now Dominguez, who has been a figure in the federal courts ever since their establishment in this city with Judge Erskine M. Ross as district judge in 1887.

The death of Mr. Dominguez came suddenly Sunday night at the home of his mother, Mrs. Guadalupe Dominguez, 739 West Washington street.

After retiring for the night, Dominguez felt a seizure of his old heart trouble, managed to get out of bed and staggered into the room of his aged mother.

He died at the feet of his mother. He was born in Los Angeles October 28, 1864.

He belonged to one of the best-known Spanish families in Southern California, the original forebears, Nazario and Cristobal Dominguez, receiving the empire of land known as the historic Dominguez ranch from the King of Spain. The father of the dead official, Rosario Dominguez, was a son of Nazario Dominguez, was one of the two early owners of more than 30,000 acres of land. Rosario Dominguez died many years ago, but his widow, Guadalupe, still survives and it was at her home that the son died.

### Great Tenor Heads Jubilee Company

Mr. George H. Garner, head of the Garner Jubilee Company, which is to appear here the sixth night of the Chautauqua possesses a wonderful tenor voice. He is a vocalist of standing and is generally conceded to be the finest colored artist in America. His voice is one of unusual richness and unusual beauty and he sings with all the artistic finesse of the great artists of today.

It is not often that a colored artist attracts the attention of the large musical journals of the country. If he does, however, it is a tribute to his ability as an artist. Read what the Music News of Chicago thinks of Mr. Garner and his singers:

"The Garner organization has established a secure place in the world of music and entertainment that is unparalleled in the annals of concert companies. Mr. Garner's singing at the Ziegfeld theatre on Saturday thrilled the large audience that gathered to hear this sterling artist whose wonderful voice was heard to great advantage."

The late S. Eugene Whiteside said: "The musical unit has commanded attention by the unvarying excellence of their performance. Mr. Garner, the manager, is one of America's greatest tenors."

Carl D. Kinsey, manager North Shore Musical Festival, Chicago, said: "Mr. George H. Garner, Jr., tenor, choral conductor and organizer of the Oliver Baptist church, graduate of the Chicago Musical College, and pupil of Adolph Muhlmann, Herman Devries and Gordon Wederez, all of Chicago, has reached an artistic standard through his high ideals, which has won him the recognition he so well deserves."

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